

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 11-18 and 21-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 8, 21 and 23 are independent.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 21 and 23 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1 and 2 of Sprague U.S. Patent No. 6,434,905 ("Sprague"). Claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11-18 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claim 1 of Sprague in view of Boeckx U.S. Patent No. 4,671,016 ("Boeckx"). Applicant submits that a terminal disclaimer is being filed herewith, thereby obviating these rejections.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of Claims 1-8, 11-18 and 21-23.

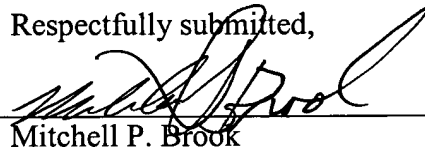
Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, favorable consideration and allowance of Claims 1-8, 11-18 and 21-23 is solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

12/27/02

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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